

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-41 are pending in this application. Applicants have amended the dependencies of claims 4-9, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 24-31, 37 and 38, such that they no longer depend on non-elected claim 3. It is believed that no new matter is introduced by the amendments made herein.

**ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS**

The Examiner has required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-2, drawn to a method of treating a puncture in vein or artery, classified in class 128, subclass 898;
- II. Claim 3-38, drawn to a method for inhibiting the formation of hematomas, classified in class 604, subclass 60; and
- III. Claims 39-41, drawn to a method for decreasing the occurrence of localized vascular complications, classified in class 424, subclass 422.

The Examiner contends that the inventions are distinct, each from the other.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, *i.e.*, claims 1-2, directed to a method of treating a puncture in vein or artery. Applicants submit that claims 4-38 belong to Group I, since they depend from, *inter alia*, elected claims 1 and 2.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments and remarks be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application. No fee is believed to be due for this response. Should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

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